

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Kevin David Eld et al.

Serial No.: 09/845,813

Filed: April 30, 2001

Docket No.: 10013062-1

Title: DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD USING CONTENT GROUPING SYSTEM**REMARKS**

The following Remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed November 17, 2004, in which claims 1-31 were rejected. With this amendment, claims 3, 4, 15, 21, and 22 have been cancelled without prejudice, and claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, and 18 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention. Claims 1, 2, 5-14, 16-20, and 23-31, therefore, remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Poole et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,006,242.

With this Amendment, independent claims 1 and 14 have been amended to clarify that applying a content attribute to each of the documents includes analyzing a content of each of the documents and assigning a content attribute value to the content attribute of each of the documents based on the content thereof, and includes appending the metadata file of each of the documents with the content attribute and the content attribute value thereof, and to clarify that assigning a content group to each of the documents is based on the content attribute and the content attribute value thereof. In addition, independent claim 18 has been amended to clarify that the metadata architecture system is adapted to analyze a content of each of the documents, apply at least one content attribute to each of the documents based on the content thereof, assign a content attribute value to the content attribute of each of the documents based on the content thereof, and append a metadata file of each of the documents with the at least one content attribute and the content attribute value thereof, and to clarify that the logic rules application system is adapted to assign at least one content group to each of the documents based on the at least one content attribute and the content attribute value thereof.

With respect to the Poole et al. patent, this patent does not teach or suggest a method of distributing a plurality of documents as claimed in amended independent claims 1 and 14, nor a document management system as claimed in amended independent claim 18. For example, the Poole et al. patent discloses an apparatus and method for dynamically constructing an electronic document for subsequent publication (col. 1, lines 16-20). The documents of the Poole et al. patent, however, have not been constructed yet. Thus, the

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apparatus and method of the Poole et al. patent cannot analyze a content of the documents, apply content attributes to the documents based on the content thereof, and assign content attribute values to the content attributes of the documents based on the content thereof because the documents do not yet exist.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 14, and 18 are each patentably distinct from the Poole et al. patent and, therefore, are each in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 2 and 5-13 further define patentably distinct claim 1, dependent claims 16-17 further define patentably distinct claim 14, and dependent claims 19-20 and 23-31 further define patentably distinct claim 18, Applicant submits that these dependent claims are also in a condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 1, 2, 5-14, 16-20, and 23-31 be allowed.

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In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1, 2, 5-14, 16-20, and 23-31 are all in a condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either John C. Moran at Telephone No. (970) 898-7010, Facsimile No. (970) 898-7247 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

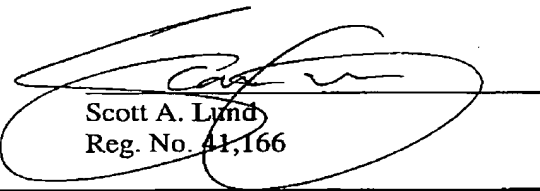
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Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____
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